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Date:	April 6, 2000, 2:43 PM
To:	Examiner Marjorie Moran US Patent and Trademark Office
Fax no:	1.703.308.4556

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This fax is [4] pages including the cover.

RE: U.S. Patent Application 09/326,2444
METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR ASSESSING BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS
USING OPTICAL DETECTION TECHNIQUES
Group Art Unit 1623

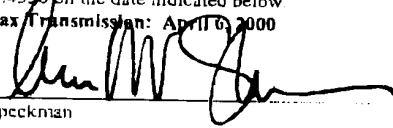
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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being faxed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, Attention Examiner Marjory Moran, at fax number: 1.703.308.4550 on the date indicated below.

Date of Fax Transmission: April 6, 2000


Ann W. Speckman

Attorney Docket No. 48000.1002u
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1623

In re : **Daryl W. Hochman**
Application No. : 09/326,244
Filed : June 4, 1999
Title : **METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR ASSESSING BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS USING OPTICAL DETECTION TECHNIQUES**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant recently elected to prosecute Claim 17, directed to a method for identifying optical contrast enhancing agents in response to a telephone restriction requirement. Applicant respectfully requests the entry of the following amendments prior to examination of the subject patent application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

- Sub 1
2. (Amended) A method of claim [1] 17, additionally comprising acquiring multiple test data sets relating to one or more [geometrical or] optical properties of the sample population at multiple, predetermined spatial locations in the sample population.

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